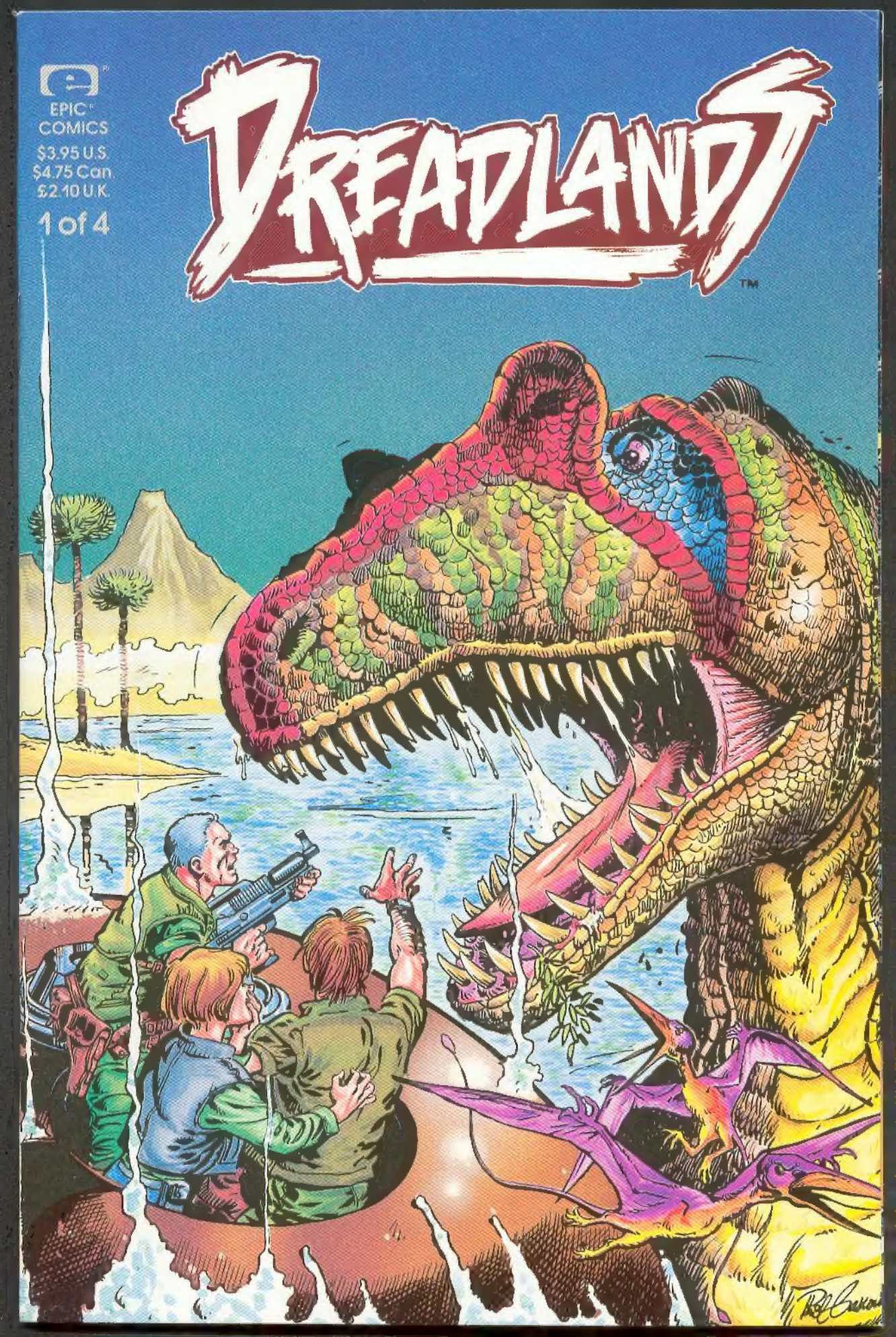
EPIC® COMICS
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1 of 4
DREADLANDS™

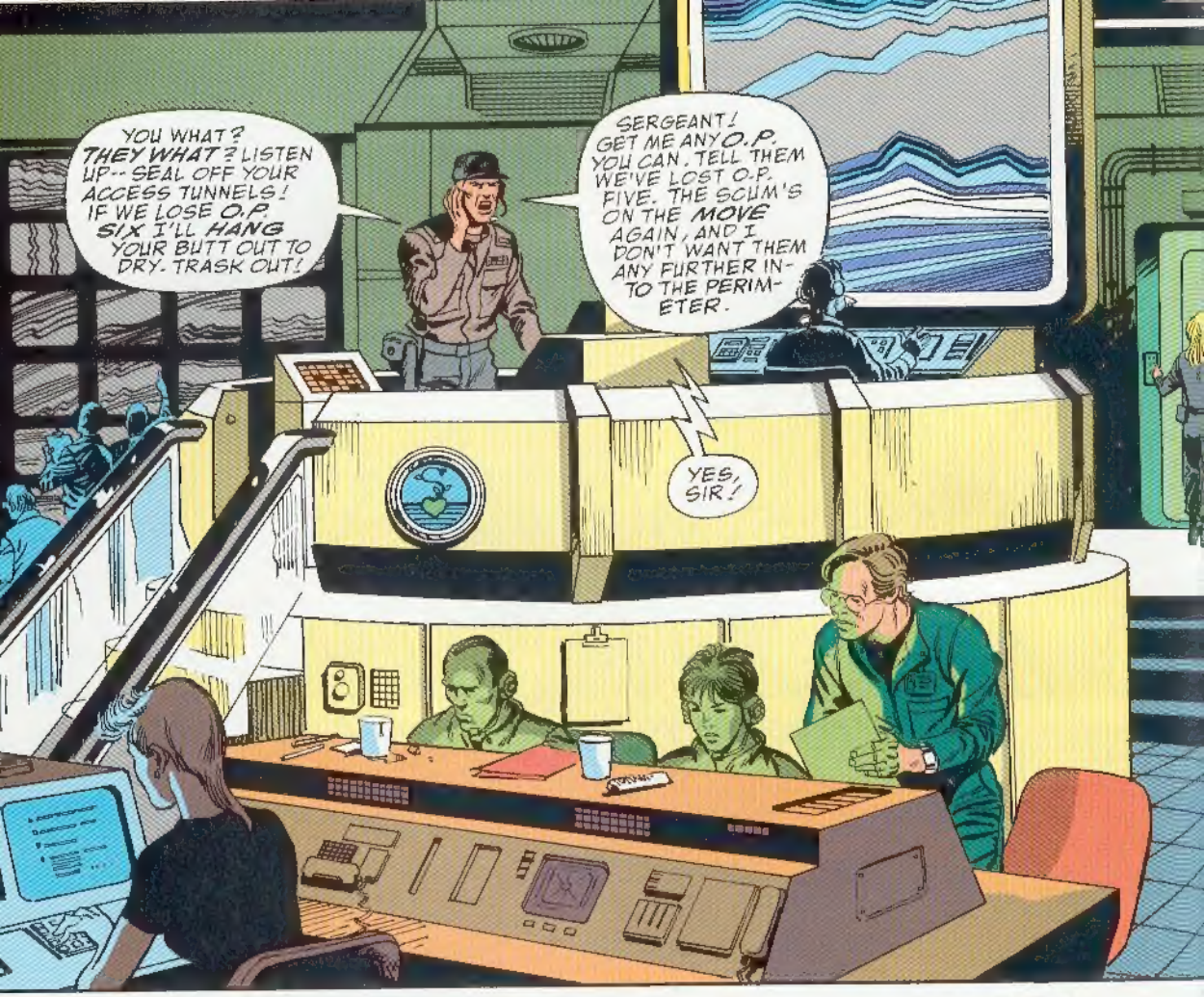
2033. COLORADO, USA...
THE WORLD HAS BECOME A MUTE TESTAMENT TO HUMANITY'S ARROGANCE AND SHORTSIGHTEDNESS. DENSELY POPULATED, CLIMATICALLY UNSTABLE AND ECOLOGICALLY DERELICT, IT IS A ROTTING WASTELAND.
DISEASE, FAMINE, AND THE THREAT OF ATTACK FROM NOMADIC BANDS OF HUMAN SCAVENGERS MAKE LIFE HARD IN THE FEW POCKETS OF CIVILIZATION THAT SURVIVE.
YET AMIDST THESE DREADLANDS...
...THERE IS HOPE.
NOV. 11. 2033. A.M:
The locusts fell like black rain today...

... covering everything like a seething, chitinous blanket...
They swept in on the bow wave of a flash storm that was severe enough to cripple our surveillance systems, leaving us deaf, dumb, and blind...
"HEADS UP, GANG, WE GOT MOVEMENT..."

WHAT IS THAT? IS THAT A TANK?
NOPE, IT'S AN L.A.V.*. LOOKS LIKE WE GOT US SOME RAIDERS.
*LIGHT ASSAULT VEHICLE.
MIKE, CALL THIS THROUGH TO C3. WE GOTTA ALERT THE BASE.

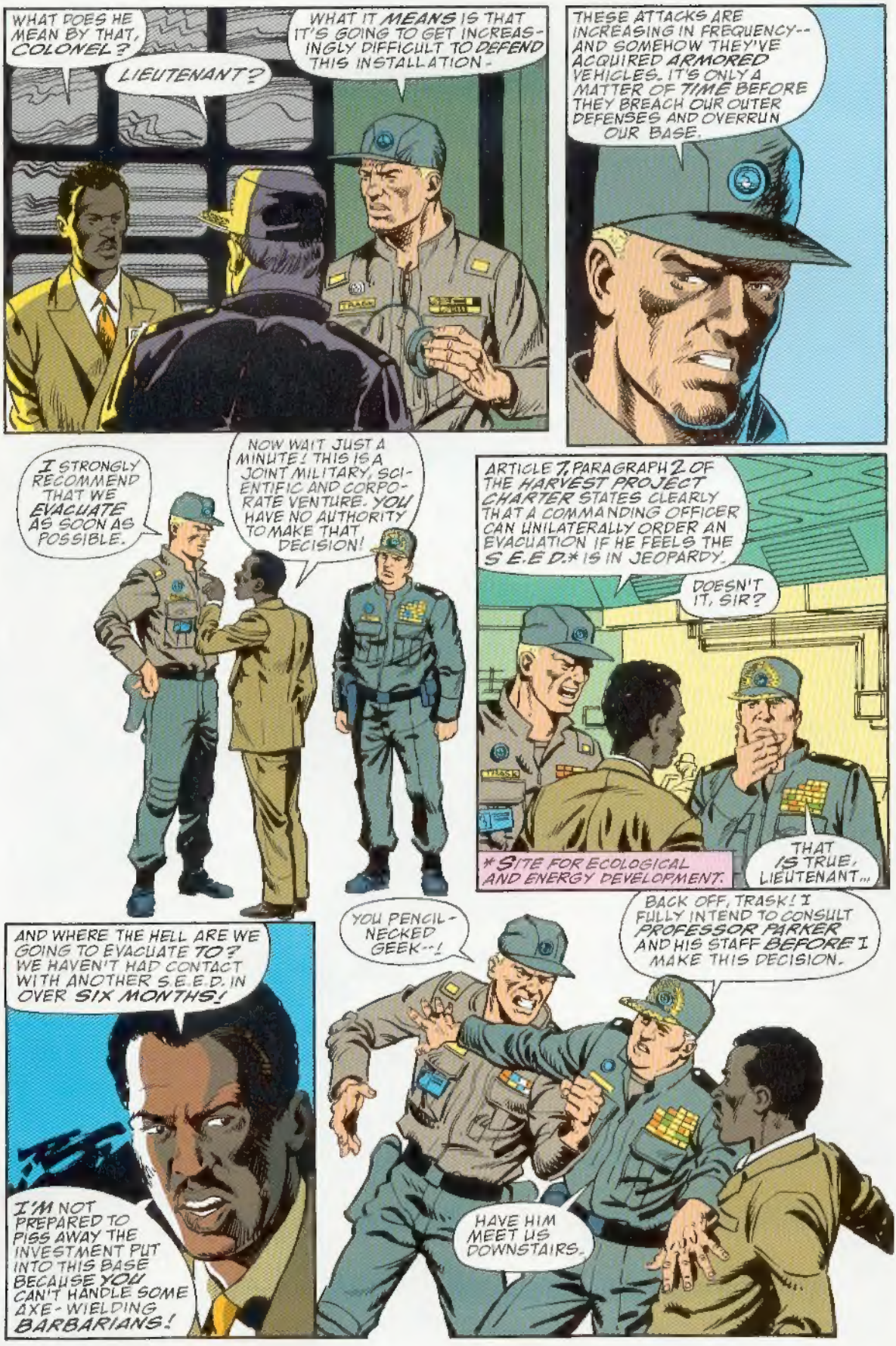
FORGET IT! THE STORM BROUGHT THE SYSTEM DOWN AGAIN! I CAN'T RAISE SQUAT ON THE COM LINK!
ZIP. JUST STATIC. THE ONLY WAY WE GET A MESSAGE OUT IS BY HAND!
SCREW THAT! WHAT ABOUT THE NEAREST OBSERVATION POINT?
WELL, YOU'RE THE DAMN R.O.!* DO SOMETHING!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT! I'VE DONE EVERYTHING I CAN! IT'S THE ATMOSPHERICS --NOTHING'S GETTING IN OR OUT!
*RADIO OPERATOR.
ATMOSPHERICS MY ASS! HUH--?
KATHUM MFF!

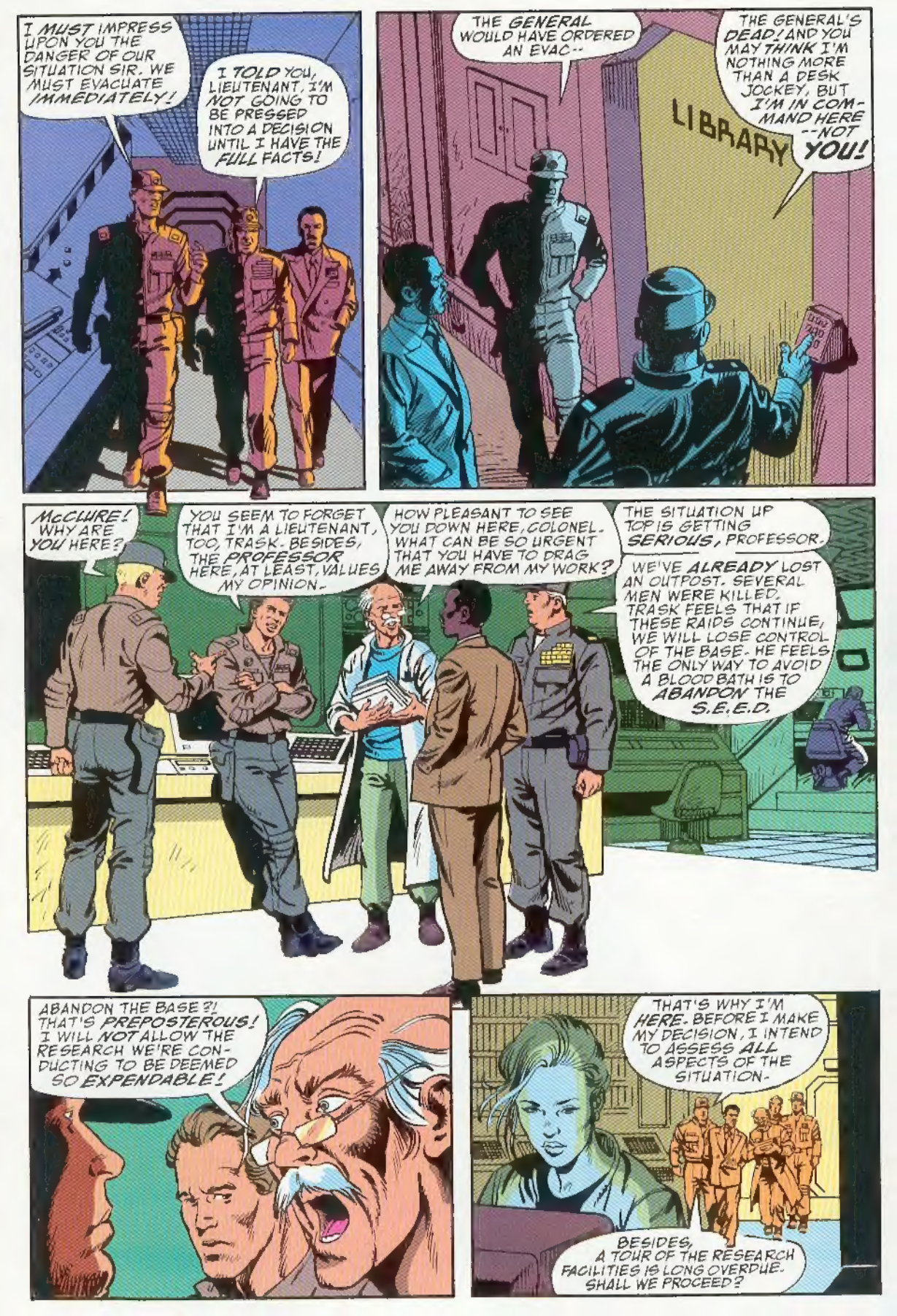
GET BEHIND ME! MAKE FOR THE BUGGY!
BRAKKA BRAKKA
START THE DAMN THING! I'LL SEAL THE HATCH!
HATCHWAY
omigod omigod omigod omigod.
SPRAKSPRAKSPRANG
THIS IS P.F.C. BARKER, OBSERVATION POINT FIVE. WE'VE BEEN OVERRUN. I'VE GOT WOUNDED! OPEN UP-- QUICK!
HUH?
Wham wham
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?
SEAL ALL ADJOINING TUNNELS! THEY'VE GOT AN L.A.V. UP THERE! BREACHED THE PERIMETER. GET C3 ON LINE!
C3 HERE, LIEUTENANT TRASK SPEAKING. REPORT.

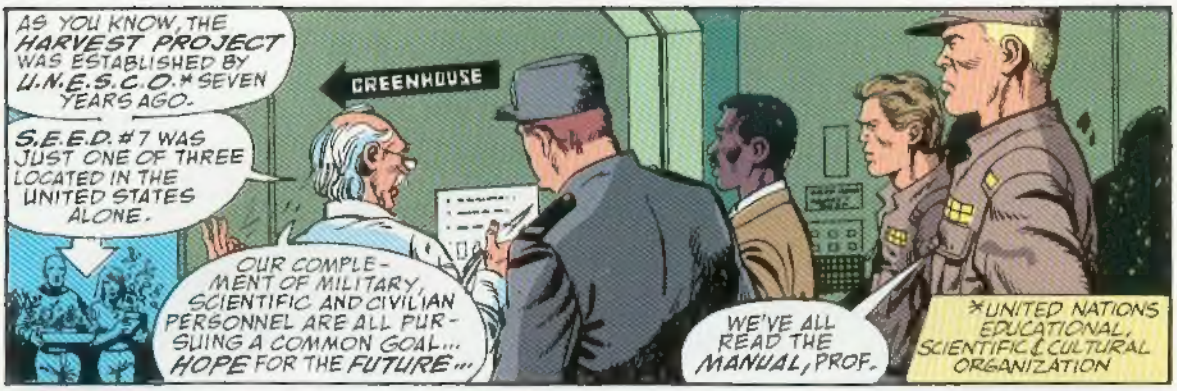

YOU WHAT? THEY WHAT? LISTEN UP-- SEAL OFF YOUR ACCESS TUNNELS! IF WE LOSE O.P. SIX I'LL HANG YOUR BUTT OUT TO DRY. TRASK OUT!
SERGEANT! GET ME ANY O.P. YOU CAN. TELL THEM WE'VE LOST O.P. FIVE. THE SCUM'S ON THE MOVE AGAIN, AND I DON'T WANT THEM ANY FURTHER IN-TO THE PERIM-ETER.
YES, SIR!

LIEUTENANT! WOULD YOU CARE TO TELL ME WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON? McDONALD AND I WERE IN A MEETING!
TRASK
COLONEL SADLER! IT APPEARS THAT WE'VE LOST ONE OF OUR PERIMETER OBSER-VATION POINTS TO SCAVENGERS.

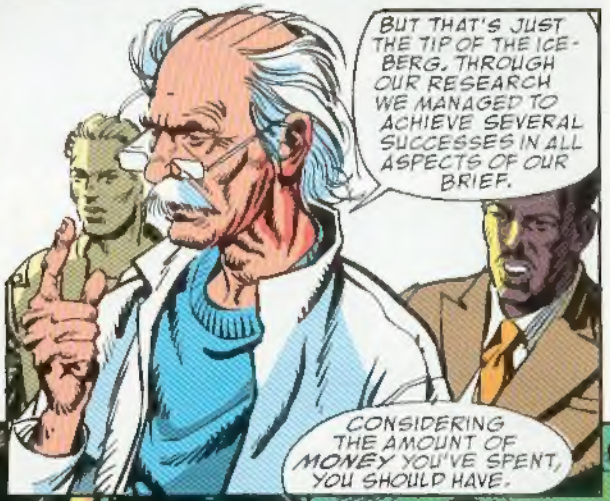
WHAT?! HOW ON EARTH DID THAT HAPPEN?
THE STORM CREATED HOLES IN OUR SURVEILLANCE NETWORK THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO SLIP THROUGH. WE'RE DEALING WITH THE SITUATION, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER WE CAN COPE UNDER THESE CIRCUM-STANCES.
SADLER


WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THAT, COLONEL?
LIEUTENANT?
WHAT IT MEANS IS THAT IT'S GOING TO GET INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO DEFEND THIS INSTALLATION-
THESE ATTACKS ARE INCREASING IN FREQUENCY--AND SOMEHOW THEY'VE ACQUIRED ARMORED VEHICLES. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY BREACH OUR OUTER DEFENSES AND OVERRUN OUR BASE.
I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT WE EVACUATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
NOW WAIT JUST A MINUTE! THIS IS A JOINT MILITARY, SCIENTIFIC AND CORPORATE VENTURE. YOU HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO MAKE THAT DECISION!
ARTICLE 7, PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE HARVEST PROJECT CHARTER STATES CLEARLY THAT A COMMANDING OFFICER CAN UNILATERALLY ORDER AN EVACUATION IF HE FEELS THE S.E.E.D.* IS IN JEOPARDY.
DOESN'T IT, SIR?
THAT IS TRUE, LIEUTENANT...
*SITE FOR ECOLOGICAL AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.
AND WHERE THE HELL ARE WE GOING TO EVACUATE TO? WE HAVEN'T HAD CONTACT WITH ANOTHER S.E.E.D. IN OVER SIX MONTHS!
I'M NOT PREPARED TO PISS AWAY THE INVESTMENT PUT INTO THIS BASE BECAUSE YOU CAN'T HANDLE SOME AXE-WIELDING BARBARIANS!
YOU PENCIL-NECKED GEEK--!
BACK OFF, TRASK! I FULLY INTEND TO CONSULT PROFESSOR PARKER AND HIS STAFF BEFORE I MAKE THIS DECISION.
HAVE HIM MEET US DOWNSTAIRS.


I MUST IMPRESS UPON YOU THE DANGER OF OUR SITUATION SIR. WE MUST EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY!
I TOLD YOU, LIEUTENANT, I'M NOT GOING TO BE PRESSED INTO A DECISION UNTIL I HAVE THE FULL FACTS!
THE GENERAL WOULD HAVE ORDERED AN EVAC--
THE GENERAL'S DEAD! AND YOU MAY THINK I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A DESK JOCKEY, BUT I'M IN COMMAND HERE --NOT YOU!
LIBRARY
McCLURE! WHY ARE YOU HERE?
YOU SEEM TO FORGET THAT I'M A LIEUTENANT, TOO, TRASK. BESIDES, THE PROFESSOR HERE, AT LEAST, VALUES MY OPINION.
HOW PLEASANT TO SEE YOU DOWN HERE, COLONEL. WHAT CAN BE SO URGENT THAT YOU HAVE TO DRAG ME AWAY FROM MY WORK?
THE SITUATION UP TOP IS GETTING SERIOUS, PROFESSOR.
WE'VE ALREADY LOST AN OUTPOST. SEVERAL MEN WERE KILLED. TRASK FEELS THAT IF THESE RAIDS CONTINUE, WE WILL LOSE CONTROL OF THE BASE. HE FEELS THE ONLY WAY TO AVOID A BLOOD BATH IS TO ABANDON THE S.E.E.D.
ABANDON THE BASE?! THAT'S PREPOSTEROUS! I WILL NOT ALLOW THE RESEARCH WE'RE CONDUCTING TO BE DEEMED SO EXPENDABLE!
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE. BEFORE I MAKE MY DECISION, I INTEND TO ASSESS ALL ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION.
BESIDES, A TOUR OF THE RESEARCH FACILITIES IS LONG OVERDUE. SHALL WE PROCEED?


AS YOU KNOW, THE HARVEST PROJECT WAS ESTABLISHED BY U.N.E.S.C.O.* SEVEN YEARS AGO.
GREENHOUSE
S.E.E.D. #7 WAS JUST ONE OF THREE LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES ALONE.
OUR COMPLEMENT OF MILITARY, SCIENTIFIC AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ARE ALL PURSUING A COMMON GOAL... HOPE FOR THE FUTURE...
WE'VE ALL READ THE MANUAL, PROF.
*UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC & CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

...AS I WAS SAYING... HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. A HOPE THAT LIES IN REVITALIZING THE EARTH'S DYING ECOLOGY AND DEVELOPING NEW POWER SOURCES.
AND THEN THERE'S THE LIBRARY--A POOL OF KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

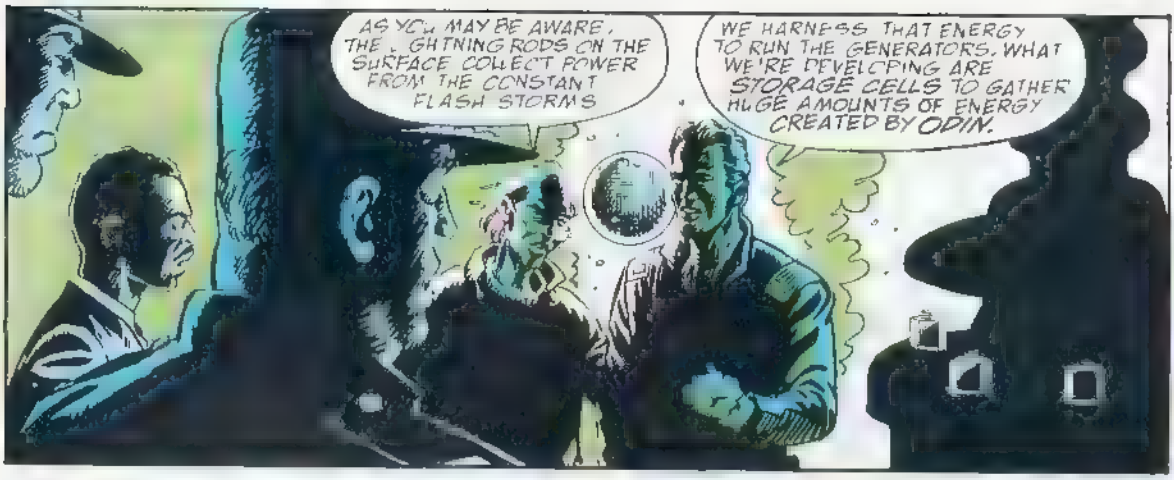

BUT THAT'S JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG. THROUGH OUR RESEARCH WE MANAGED TO ACHIEVE SEVERAL SUCCESSES IN ALL ASPECTS OF OUR BRIEF.
CONSIDERING THE AMOUNT OF MONEY YOU'VE SPENT, YOU SHOULD HAVE.

OUR FIRST TRIUMPH-- THE HYDROPONIC GREENHOUSE!
YEAH, SO?

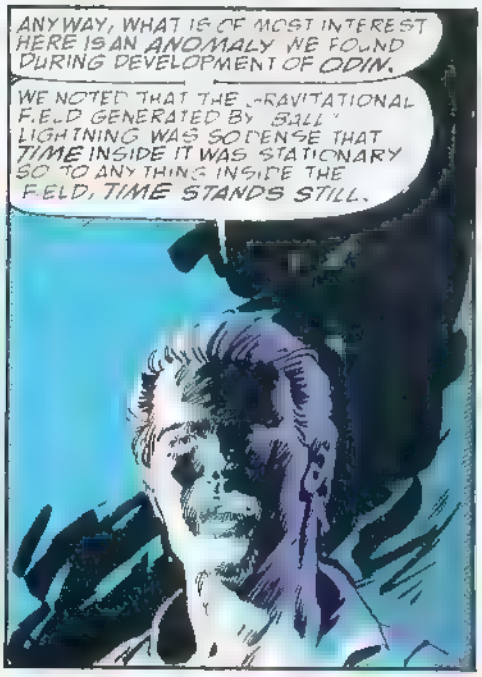
IF YOU TAKE A CLOSER LOOK, LIEUTENANT TRASK, YOU'LL SEE THAT MOST OF THESE PLANTS ARE FLOURISHING IN THE SAME BARREN SOIL YOU'D FIND ACROSS HALF THE COUNTRY. THEY'RE ALSO RESILIENT TO MOST PESTS AND DISEASES.
YOU MEAN THESE COULD ACTUALLY GROW UP THERE?
NOT ONLY GROW, BUT THRIVE AND PROPOGATE.
BUT IT'S NOT ONLY GENETIC MANIPULATION WITH PLANT D.N.A.* WE'VE HAD SUCCESS WITH. IF YOU'D LIKE TO FOLLOW ME TO THE LAB--
*DECXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID.
ELLEN, MAY I INTERRUPT? WOULD YOU CARE TO SHOW OFF YOUR 'BABIES'?
SURE, I'D LOVE TO DAD, BUT WHAT'S THIS ABOUT? WHY THE GOON SQUAD?
THE COLONEL WANTS A PROGRESS REPORT, THINGS ARE LOOKING GRIM UPSTAIRS.
WHAT'S HAPPENED? SOMEONE KICK SAND IN TRASK'S FACE?
THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER, LADY. I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY --EVEN YOURS!
ELLEN PLEASE JUST SHOW THE COLONEL YOUR RESEARCH. THIS IS IMPORTANT-- IT'S NOT ONLY THE LIFE OF THE PROJECT THAT'S AT STAKE.

OKAY, DAD.
STOP ME IF I AM USING TOO MANY BIG WORDS, TRASK.
WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN ON THIS PLANET BEFORE. THESE ARE GENETICALLY-ENHANCED HYBRIDS PART RAT, PART RABBIT.
I CALL THEM "RABS".
LET ME INTRODUCE ADAM AND EVE.
THAT'S JUST WHAT WE NEED. MORE RATS!
THESE RATS CAN WITHSTAND EXTREME CLIMATIC CHANGES AND HAVE MINIMAL NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS! THEY CAN GO SIX MONTHS ON A PEANUT!
RATS? THEY'RE SUPER-RATS!
THANKS, ELLEN. I MIGHT ADD THAT BY USING THE RABS' GENETICALLY-ALTERED PLASMA, WE WERE ABLE TO DEVELOP A SERUM THAT SHOULD ENABLE US--
--BUT I'M GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF. JEFF, THE BLAST DOOR, PLEASE.
BLAST
THIS [illegible] CROWNING GLORY!
TRASK, I THINK EVEN YOU WILL FIND THIS IMPRESSIVE!

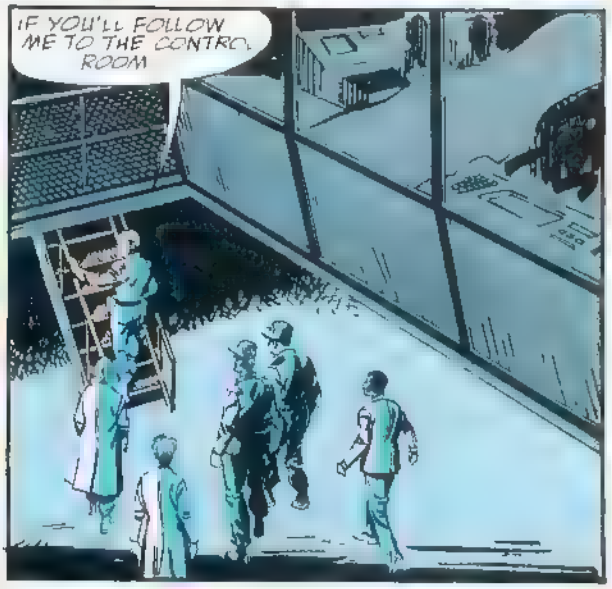
THIS IS PROJECT ODIN THE THREE GENERATORS BEFORE YOU ARE BASED ON THE DESIGNS BY THE MUCH UNDERRATED SCIENTIST NIKOLA TESLA--
--WHO IN THE EARLY PART OF LAST CENTURY INVESTIGATED THE POSSIBILITY OF ARTIFICIALLY CREATING "BALL" LIGHTNING.
"BALL" LIGHTNING IS A RARE NATURAL PHENOMENON WHICH CREATES A SMALL, INTENSE SPHERE OF PURE ENERGY DUE TO ITS VOLATILE AND UNPREDICTABLE NATURE HAS NEVER BEEN FULLY UNDERSTOOD, UNTIL NOW.
WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE WHAT TESLA FAILED TO DO: THE CONTROLLED CREATION OF "BALL" LIGHTNING. THIS GIVES US ACCESS TO AN ALMOST UNLIMITED SOURCE OF POWER
LIEUTENANT McCLURE HAS BEEN USING HIS ENGINEERING SKILLS TO HELP US IN OUR RESEARCH.

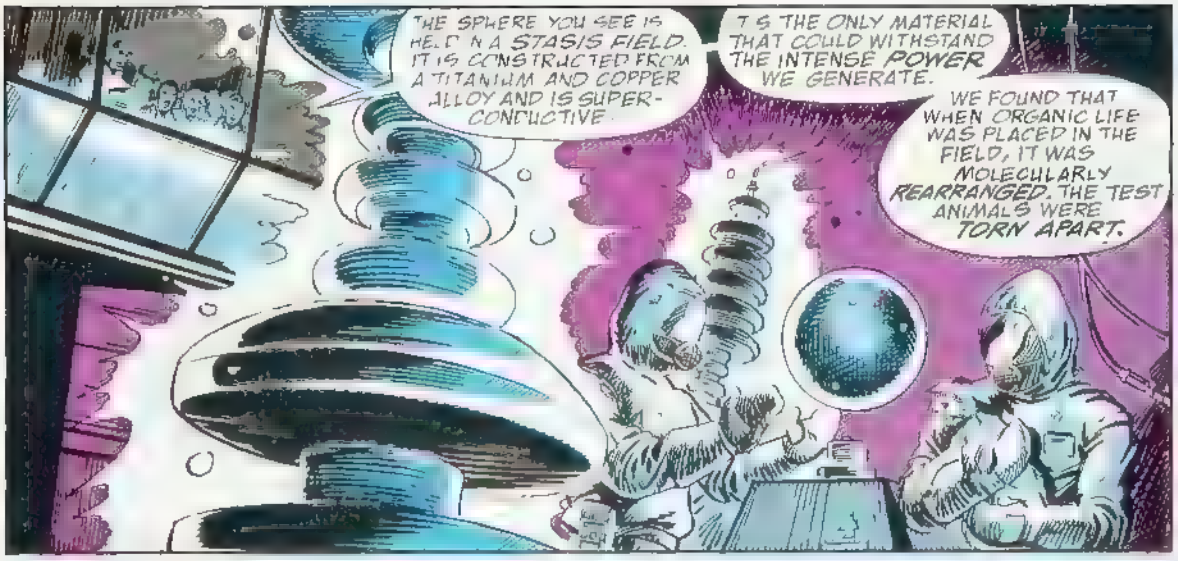

AS YOU MAY BE AWARE, THE LIGHTNING RODS ON THE SURFACE COLLECT POWER FROM THE CONSTANT FLASH STORMS
WE HARNESS THAT ENERGY TO RUN THE GENERATORS. WHAT WE'RE DEVELOPING ARE STORAGE CELLS TO GATHER HUGE AMOUNTS OF ENERGY CREATED BY ODIN.

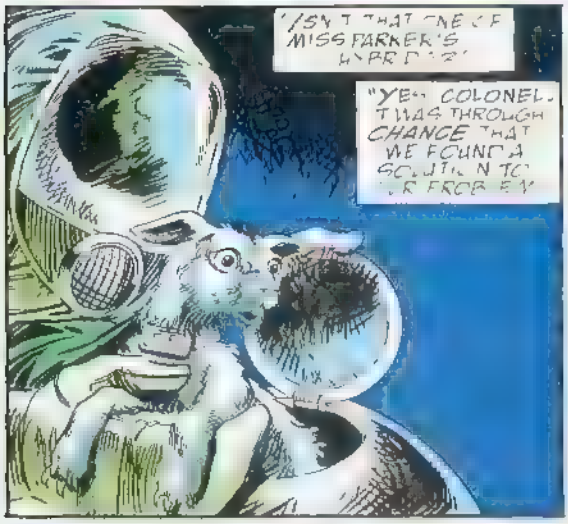
SO THIS IS WHERE YOU'VE BEEN HIDING OUT
I THINK SOLVING THE WORLD'S ENERGY CRISIS IS SLIGHTLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN DRILLING MEN EVERY MORNING.

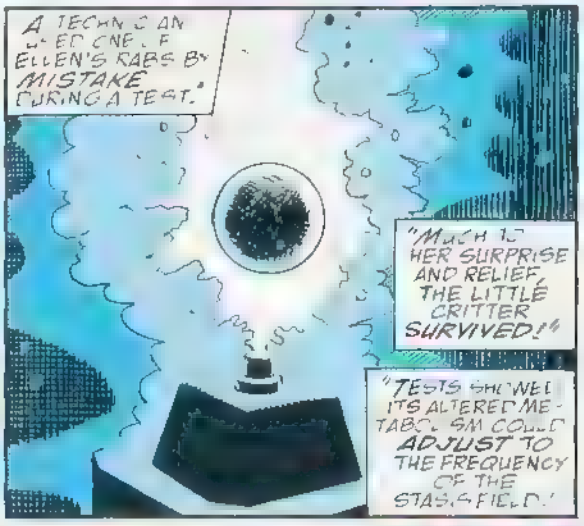

ANYWAY, WHAT IS OF MOST INTEREST HERE IS AN ANOMALY WE FOUND DURING DEVELOPMENT OF ODIN.
WE NOTED THAT THE GRAVITATIONAL FIELD GENERATED BY "BALL" LIGHTNING WAS SO DENSE THAT TIME INSIDE IT WAS STATIONARY SO TO ANYTHING INSIDE THE FIELD, TIME STANDS STILL.

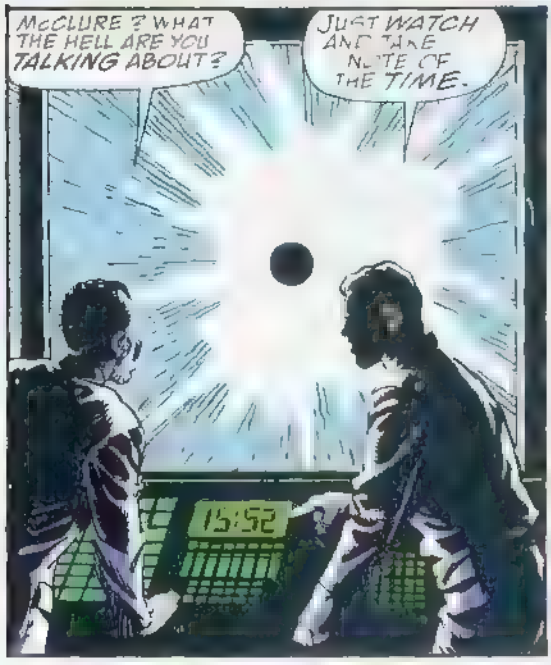
IN EFFECT, YOU'VE CREATED AN ARTIFICIAL "BLACK HOLE."
SORT OF, COLONEL...
BUT UNLIKE A REAL BLACK HOLE WE CAN TURN OURS ON AND OFF!

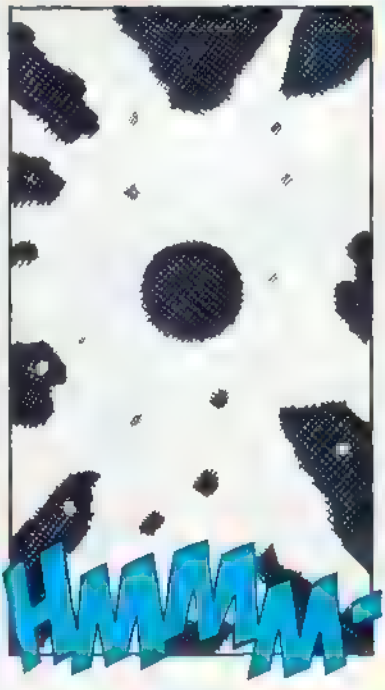

IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME TO THE CONTROL ROOM


THE SPHERE YOU SEE IS HELD IN A STASIS FIELD. IT IS CONSTRUCTED FROM A TITANIUM AND COPPER ALLOY AND IS SUPER-CONDUCTIVE.
IT IS THE ONLY MATERIAL THAT COULD WITHSTAND THE INTENSE POWER WE GENERATE.
WE FOUND THAT WHEN ORGANIC LIFE WAS PLACED IN THE FIELD, IT WAS MOLECULARLY REARRANGED. THE TEST ANIMALS WERE TORN APART.


"YES COLONEL. IT WAS THROUGH CHANCE THAT WE FOUND A SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEM.


A TECHNICIAN USED ONE OF ELLEN'S RABS BY MISTAKE DURING A TEST.
"MUCH TO HER SURPRISE AND RELIEF, THE LITTLE CRITTER SURVIVED!"
"TESTS SHOWED ITS ALTERED METABOLISM COULD ADJUST TO THE FREQUENCY OF THE STASIS FIELD."


McCLURE? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
JUST WATCH AND TAKE NOTE OF THE TIME.
15:52

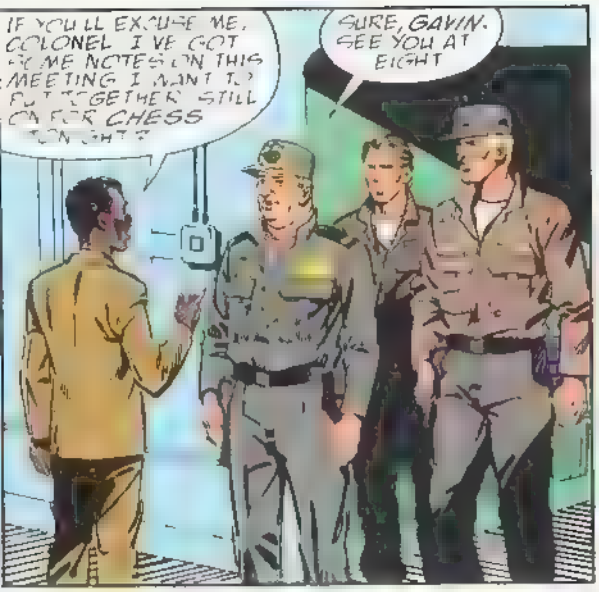

HWWWW-

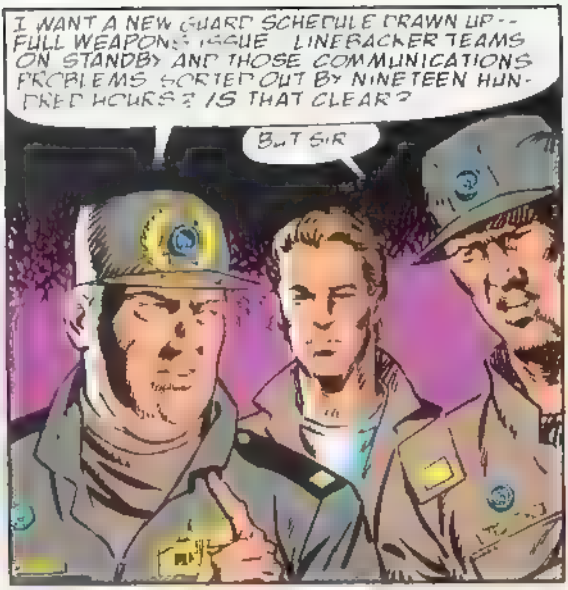
EEEEEEE
PHUT!

THAT'S JUST GREAT. YOU'VE CREATED THE WORLD'S LARGEST MICROWAVE -- AND IT DOESN'T EVEN WORK.
WAIT.
5:53
PFAFF
ANOTHER SUCCESS! NOTE THE TIMER ON THE RAB READS 15:52 AND COUNTING WHILE OURS NOW READS 15:54!
15:52
I DON'T GET IT!
DON'T YOU SEE? ITS CLOCK IS EXACTLY TWO MINUTES BEHIND OURS.. IT TRAVELED TWO MINUTES INTO THE FUTURE .. TO NOW! MY GOD..
15:54
WHEN THE SYSTEM'S ON, WE CREATE A "WORM HOLE" IN TIME. THE SPHERE ENTERS AND RE-EMERGES WHEN ODIN IS SHUT DOWN BUT BECAUSE TIME IN THE FIELD IS STATIONARY, FOR THE RAB, THE TRIP WAS INSTANTANEOUS!
SO FAR WE'VE MANAGED TO TRAVEL IN SHORT JUMPS FOWARD IN TIME. WITH FURTHER EXPERIMENTS, WHO KNOWS WHERE WE COULD GO?
"WE" CAN TRAVEL THROUGH TIME? THAT'S JUST A FLUFFY FREAK!
BUT, AS I SAID BEFORE, WE'VE DERIVED A SERUM FROM ITS BIOCHEMISTRY THAT IF INJECTED INTO HUMANS SHOULD ENABLE US TO DO THE SAME -.
REMARKABLE.

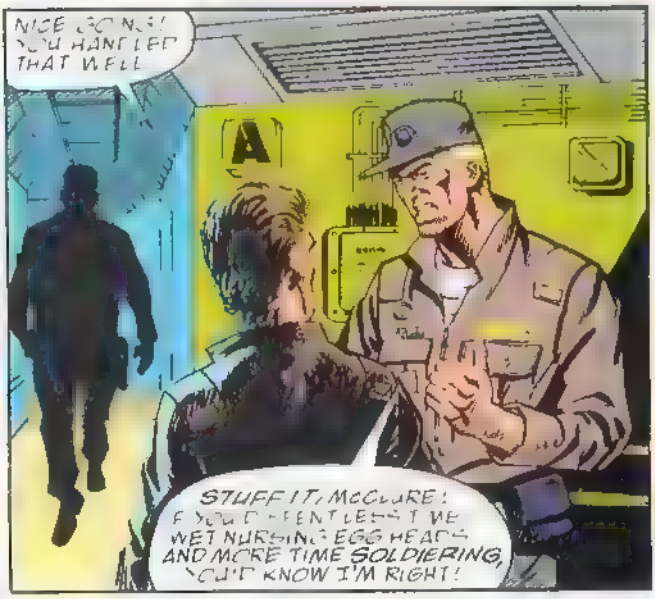
WHY WASN'T I INFORMED OF ANY OF THIS?
YES, PROFESSOR, NOTHING WAS MENTIONED OF THIS IN YOUR MONTHLY REPORTS.
WE WERE WAITING UNTIL WE WERE SURE... UNTIL WE RAN MORE CONCLUSIVE TESTS. BESIDES, NO REPORT COULD BE AS IMPRESSIVE AS THIS DEMONSTRATION? TRUE?
AS FOR McCLURE, I ASKED JEFF TO USE HIS DISCRETION.
THIS IS MORLOCK 1 --THE PET PROJECT OF OUR YOUNG GENIUS, LYNDON WOODWARD. WITH IT, WE HOPE TO SEND THE FIRST 'CHRONONAUTS' INTO THE ANNALS OF HISTORY.
CHRONONAUTS?
TIME TRAVELERS.
PROF! WHAT'S WITH THE SIGHT-SEEING TOUR? YOU JUST RUINED MY SURPRISE! A FEW MORE HOURS AND THIS BABY WOULD'VE BEEN READY TO ROLL!
WOODWARD! WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING WITH THOSE MISSILES?!
NO SWEAT, LIEUTENANT T! I DISARMED THESE BEAUTIES MONTHS BACK. WE NEED FARTS AND McCLURE OKAYED IT!
AH... I THINK THAT JUST ABOUT WRAPS UP OUR LITTLE TOUR, GENTLEMEN

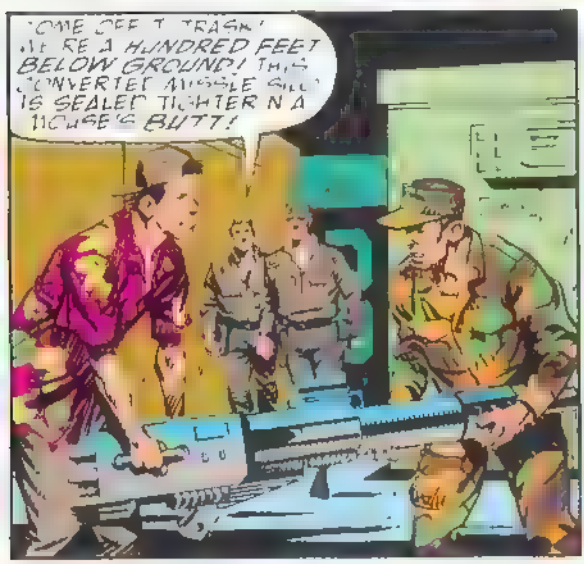
The military is getting itchy again. I'm sure Trask is bullying the Colonel into evacuating, but Dad's played his trump card and showed them Odin. If anything forces them to stay it'll be that. Yet I can't help thinking this is the calm before the storm.
...SO YOU SEE, THE POSSIBILITIES OF ODIN ARE AWESOME. TO LEAVE NOW WOULD BE INSANITY.
BUT THAT DOES NOT ALTER THE FACT THAT WE FACE AN IMMINENT INVASION!
I'M FULLY AWARE OF OUR SITUATION, LIEUTENANT.
PROFESSOR, I'LL LET YOU KNOW OF MY DECISION SHORTLY.
FOR GOD'S SAKE! WHAT'S TO DECIDE? WE'VE MADE THE GREATEST DISCOVERY SINCE THE WHEEL--
--AND YOU'RE LISTENING TO THIS 21ST CENTURY RAMBO HERE?!
PLEASE, ELLEN! THIS'LL GET US NOWHERE.
COLONEL, I'M SURE WE CAN MANAGE TO DOUBLE THE PERIMETER GUARD. I CAN SPARE SOME OF MY MEN.
YOUR DEMONSTRATION HAS BOUGHT YOU A MONTH. I'LL REASSESS THE SITUATION AT THAT TIME.
GENTLEMEN, IF YOU WOULD COME WITH ME I'D LIKE TO GET THINGS MOVING.
SPINELESS CREEP! AND TRASK! THE MAN'S A RELIC--A DINOSAUR!
CALM DOWN, ELLEN! WHEN YOU GET LIKE THIS, YOU'RE LIKE YOUR MOTHER!
HEAVEN FORBID I SHOULD EVER BECOME LIKE HER!

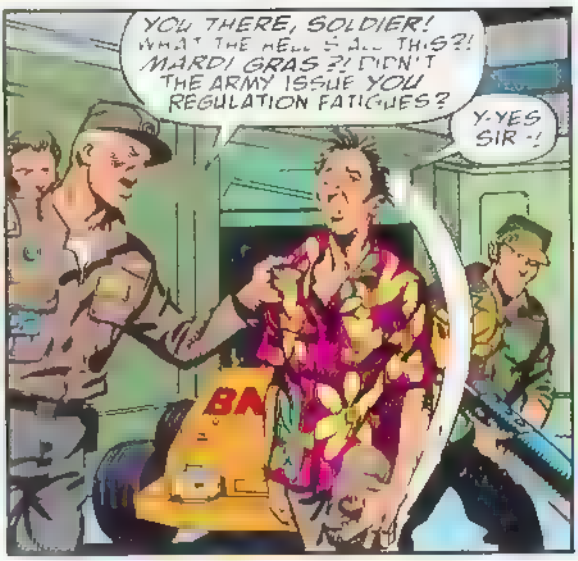

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, COLONEL I'VE GOT SOME NOTES ON THIS MEETING I WANT TO PUT TOGETHER STILL ON FOR CHESS TONIGHT?
SURE, GAVIN. SEE YOU AT EIGHT


I WANT A NEW GUARD SCHEDULE DRAWN UP-- FULL WEAPONS ISSUE LINEBACKER TEAMS ON STANDBY AND THOSE COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS SORTED OUT BY NINETEEN HUNDRED HOURS? IS THAT CLEAR?
BUT SIR

DON'T BUT ME TRASK! EVER SINCE GENERAL HAWKES WAS KILLED AND I ASSUMED COMMAND YOU'VE BEEN UNDERMINING MY AUTHORITY
NOW BUTTON IT! AND THAT'S AN ORDER, SOLDIER!


NICE GOING! YOU HANDLED THAT WELL
A
STUFF IT, McCLURE! IF YOU'D HAD THE GUTS TO WET NURSING EGG HEADS AND MORE TIME SOLDIERING, YOU'D KNOW I'M RIGHT!

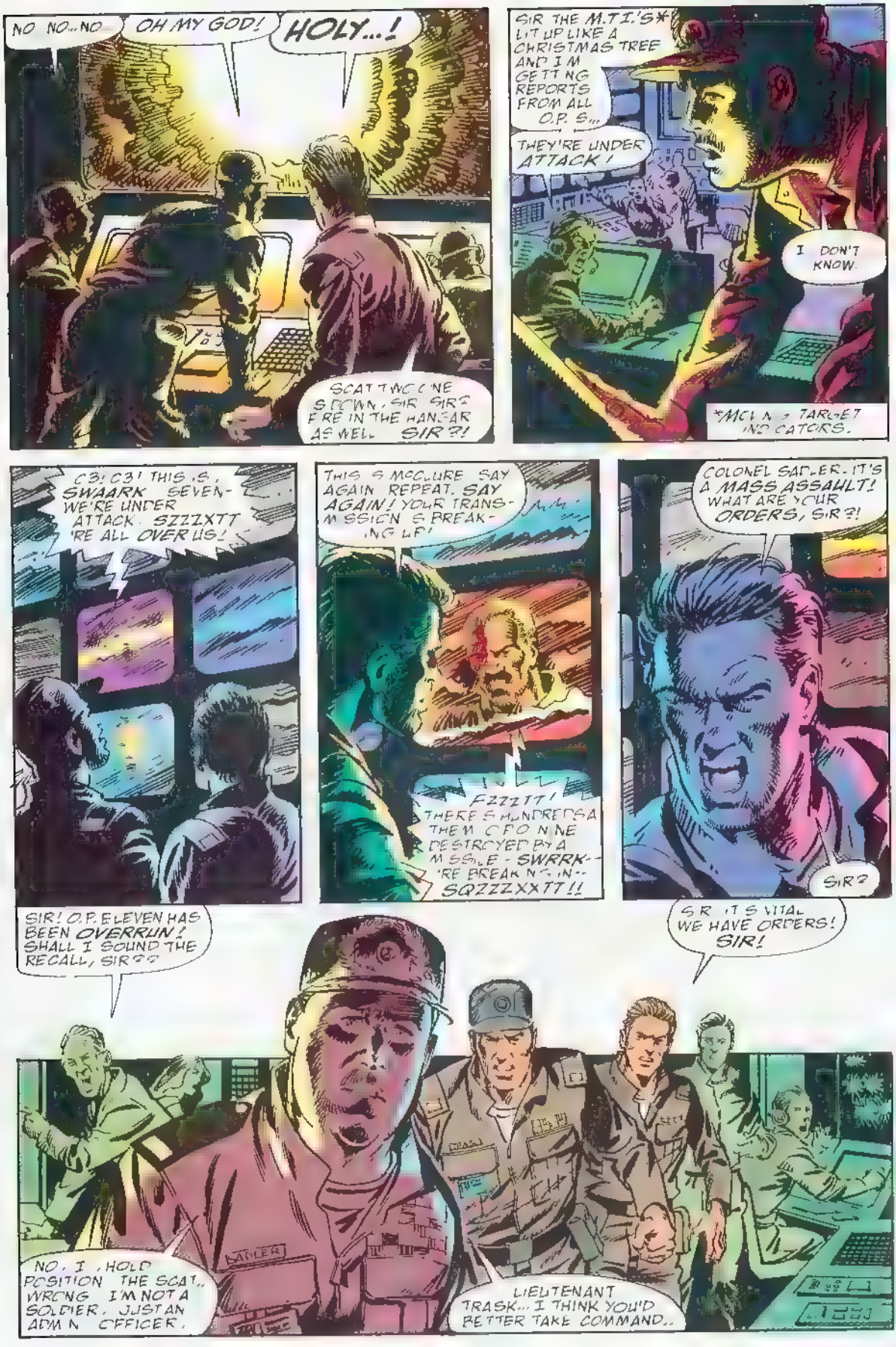

COME SEE T TRASK! WE'RE A HUNDRED FEET BELOW GROUND! THIS CONVERTED MISSILE SILO IS SEALED TIGHTER N A MOUSE'S BUTT!


YOU THERE, SOLDIER! WHAT THE HELL'S ALL THIS?! MARDI GRAS?! DIDN'T THE ARMY ISSUE YOU REGULATION FATIGUES?
Y-YES SIR!

THEN WHERE THE HELL ARE THEY?
I I GOT OIL ON THEM AND THE LIEUTENANT SAID--
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHAT HE SAID! I'M YOUR COMMANDER AND IF I DON'T SEE YOU IN REGS WITHIN THE HOUR YOU'RE ON A CHARGE, SOLDIER!
COME ON, McCLURE... WE HAVEN'T GOT ALL AFTER NOON
DON'T MIND KING KONG...
. SOMEBODY STOLE HIS BANANAS!
DAMN SUN-WORSHIPPING PENCIL-NECKED GEEK! I'M A SENIOR MEMBER OF THIS PROJECT!
ERT
NOTHING! JUST GET ME THE R&D FILES AND ODIN REPORTS FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS--ON MY DESK IN FIVE MINUTES!
I WAS JUST GOING OFF SHIFT
LIFE'S TOUGH WENDY--NOW JUST GET THE FILES!
McDONALD CHIEF ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
SLAM
CREEP.

LATER
WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH ANOTHER C.P. AND THE STORMS HAVE BLINDED MOST OF OUR MONITORS!
I'VE ORDERED A S.C.A.T.* RECON OF THE AREA TO CHECK ON ANY HOSTILE ACTIVITY.
WITH RESPECT, SIR, HAVE YOU SEEN THE WEATHER REPORTS? THE WIND IS GUSTING AT STORM FORCE UP THERE!
*SCOUT ATTACK.
"HE'S RIGHT, SIR, WOULDN'T IT BE WISER TO SEND BUGGIES TO CHECK IT OUT?"
"I'M FULLY AWARE OF THE WEATHER CONDITIONS, LIEUTENANT McCLURE- AND I DON'T NEED ANY OF YOUR ADVICE, LIEUTENANT TRASK.
"I'VE GIVEN THE ORDER AND THE S.C.A.T.'S ON ITS WAY."
RECON FLIGHT SCAT TWO ONE, IT'S PITCHING LIKE A BITCH UP HERE. RECOMMEND WE ABORT!
COLONEL SADLER HERE! STOP CRYING AND GET AIRBORNE! THAT'S AN ORDER!
WHY DOESN'T HE COME OUT HERE AND FLY THIS DAMN THING!? OOOHHH!!

I'M LOSING IT! EJECT--
EJECT! EEJJE--
WHOOM
KAFFHOOMM


NO NO...NO
OH MY GOD!
HOLY...!
SCAT TWO ONE SCRAMBLE SIR! FIRE IN THE HANGAR AS WELL SIR?!
SIR THE M.T.I.'S* LIT UP LIKE A CHRISTMAS TREE AND I'M GETTING REPORTS FROM ALL O.P.'S...
THEY'RE UNDER ATTACK!
I DON'T KNOW.
*MISSILE TARGET INDICATORS.
C3! C3! THIS IS SWAARK SEVEN- WE'RE UNDER ATTACK. SZZZXTT 'RE ALL OVER US!
THIS IS MCCLURE SAY AGAIN REPEAT. SAY AGAIN! YOUR TRANSMISSION IS BREAKING UP!
FZZZIT! THERE HUNDREDS A THEM C'MON ONE DESTROYED BY A MISSILE - SWRRK- 'RE BREAKING IN-- SQZZZXXTT!!
COLONEL SADLER. IT'S A MASS ASSAULT! WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS, SIR?!
SIR?
SIR! O.P. ELEVEN HAS BEEN OVERRUN! SHALL I SOUND THE RECALL, SIR??
SIR, IT'S VITAL WE HAVE ORDERS! SIR!
NO, I HOLD POSITION. THE SCAT WRONG. I'M NOT A SOLDIER, JUST AN ADMIN OFFICER.
LIEUTENANT TRASK... I THINK YOU'D BETTER TAKE COMMAND..

WITH RESPECT, SIR, I THINK YOU'D BETTER SIT DOWN.
C3 TO ALL OF E! WITHDRAW TO MAIN COMPLEX! SEAL ALL BLAST DOORS AND TUNNELS!
HANGAR DECK! SECURE YOUR EXIT DOORS.
WE CAN'T SIR! THE EXPLOSION CRIPPLED THE PNEUMATICS - WE'VE LOST HYDRAULIC PRESSURE IT'S AN INFERNO IN HERE SIR!
THEN GET THE HELL OUT OF THERE AND SEAL IT SHUT!
MCCLURE, GET A LINEBACKER TEAM TO ALL ACCESSWAYS. I WANT ALL EXITS SECURED! MOVE!
RIGHT! THEN I'LL TAKE SOME MEN AND CLEAR THE LABS.
WHO SOUNDED THE ALARM!? WHY WASN'T I INFORMED? WHAT'S HAPPENING?!?
JUST WHAT I SAID WOULD HAPPEN! THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THIS BASE WILL BE OVERRUN!
NOW SIT DOWN, SHUT UP, AND LET ME GET ON WITH MY JOB!
COLONEL, I SUGGEST WE SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EMERGENCY EVACUATION FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PERSONNEL!
TALK TO TRASK!
MCDONALD, YOU LITTLE TOAD! WHEN IT'S YOUR BUTT ON THE LINE, THEN YOU SING A DIFFERENT SONG!

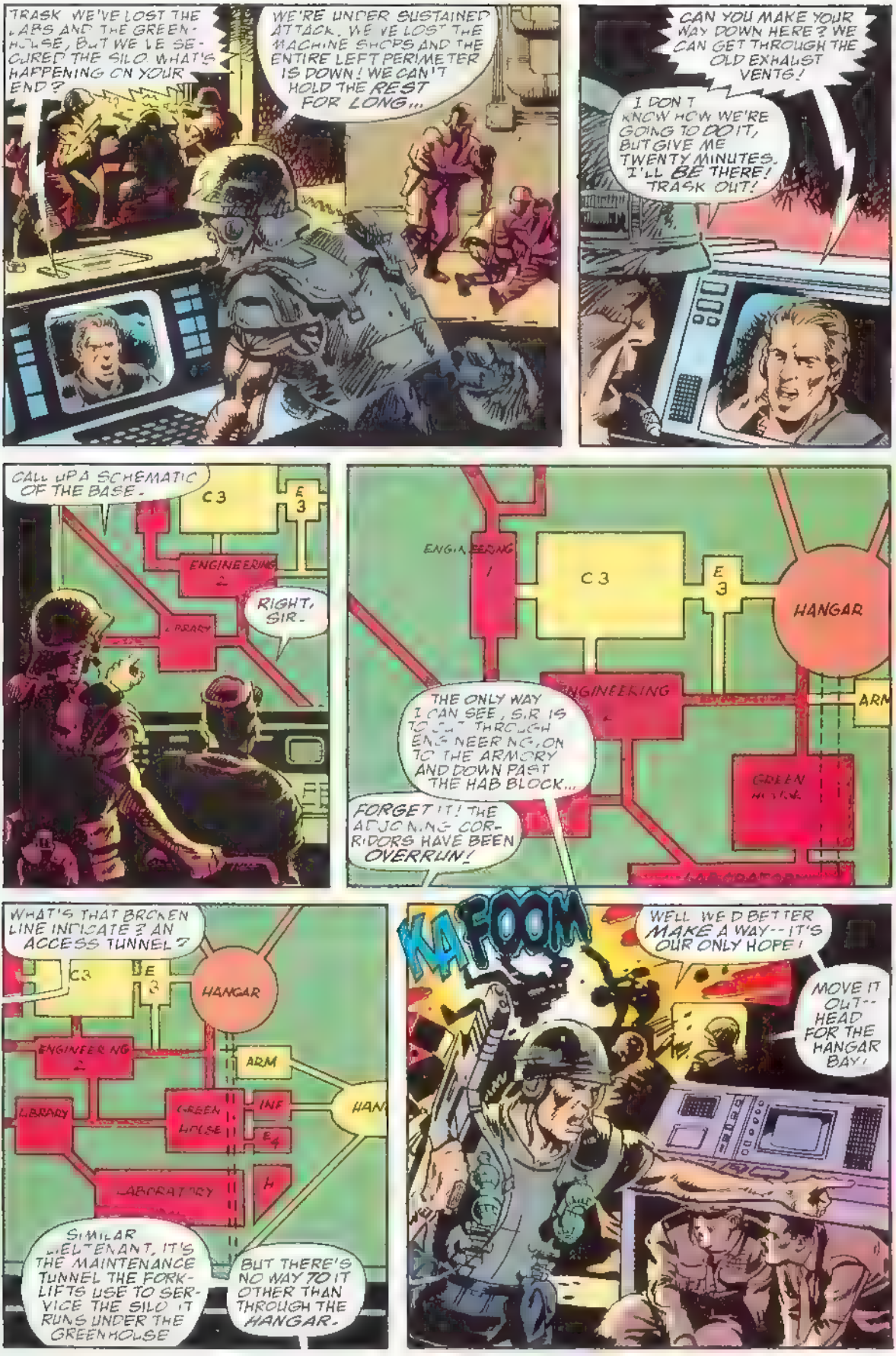
WHERE ARE YOU GOING NOW? WE'VE LOST THE HANGAR BAY-- THE ONLY WAY OUT OF HERE IS ON FOOT THROUGH THE EMERGENCY VENTS IN THE SILO
BUT THAT'S THE FINAL OPTION. UNTIL THEN, WE STAND AND FIGHT!
CP THIS IS LINEBACKER FOUR AT ACCESS WAY SEVEN. PREPARING TO SEAL HATCHWAY. WE'VE GOT TWO CREW FROM O.P. SEVEN UNACCOUNTED FOR SIR
SEAL IT NOW!
BUT SIR
I SAID NOW.
WHAT DID HE SAY?
WE'VE GOT TO SECURE IT NOW.
BUT ROGERS AND GRUBER ARE STILL DOWN THERE -- THEY COULD STILL BE ALIVE!
FORGET IT-- WE CAN'T WAIT I'M SORRY.
BUDDA BUDDA
BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAK

SIR, WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH LINEBACKER FOUR AND THERE'S REPORTS COMING IN OF FIRING IN MACHINE SHOP THREE! WE'VE BEEN BREACHED!
THAT'S JUST 'ROUND THE CORNER!
GET ME A LINEBACKER SQUAD IN HERE NOW--AND BREAK OUT THE ARMORY!
BETTER GET YOURSELF A WEAPON, McDONALD!
BUT I'M A CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATOR--
NOT ANYMORE
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE ARE IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION- IF YOU COULD COLLECT WHATEVER YOU FEEL IS NECESSARY AND PROCEED IN A QUIET, ORDERLY MANNER TO LABLE THREE AND THE MAIN SILO PLEASE
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I THOUGHT I HEARD GUNFIRE!
OH, HELL!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT?
THIS IS THE LIBRARY MAINFRAME--TEN THOUSAND YEARS WORTH OF KNOWLEDGE
I'M NOT LETTING IT OUT OF MY SIGHT!
MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL, JEFF, AND GRAB SOME OF THESE DISKS WILL YOU?
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
WHAT'S THAT??

KA-CHUK
THEY RE IN THE SER E SHAFTS.
KA-CHOOM
JEFF! OVER THERE!
THEY RE ALL OVER US!
GET TO THE S..O! MOVE IT PEOPLE!
SEAL THAT HATCHWAY.
TOO LATE! HERE THEY COME!

WOODWARD, GET THESE PEOPLE TO THE SILO AND PICK UP ELLEN'S TEAM ON THE WAY! IF I'M NOT WITH YOU IN FIVE MINUTES SEAL THE BLAST DOORS!
BUT WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
IMPROVISE
THOOM
BRAKKA BRAKKA
服法?
BUDDA BUDDA BUD

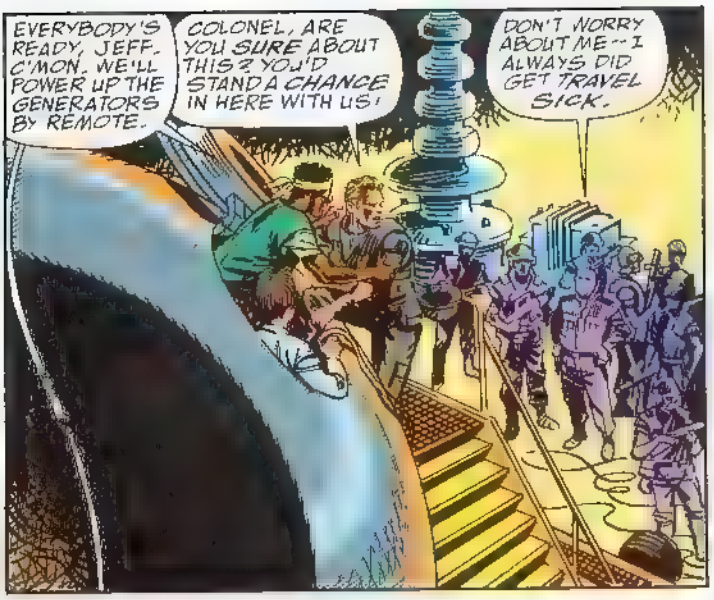
KEEP YOUR HEADS DOWN AND AIM FOR THE LABS!
FWAP
FRAP
THWAPP
NO TIME FOR DOORS.
KERAASHH
COME IN
ELLEN, WHY AREN'T YOU WITH THE OTHERS? IT ISN'T SAFE OUT HERE!
I HAD TO GET A FEW THINGS.
MOVE! SEAL THE DOORS AND GET ME TRASK ON A MONITOR!


TRASK WE'VE LOST THE LABS AND THE GREENHOUSE, BUT WE'VE SECURED THE SILO. WHAT'S HAPPENING ON YOUR END?
WE'RE UNDER SUSTAINED ATTACK. WE'VE LOST THE MACHINE SHOPS AND THE ENTIRE LEFT PERIMETER IS DOWN! WE CAN'T HOLD THE REST FOR LONG...
CAN YOU MAKE YOUR WAY DOWN HERE? WE CAN GET THROUGH THE OLD EXHAUST VENTS!
I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'RE GOING TO DO IT, BUT GIVE ME TWENTY MINUTES. I'LL BE THERE! TRASK OUT!
CALL UP A SCHEMATIC OF THE BASE.
C3
E3
ENGINEERING
LIBRARY
RIGHT, SIR.
ENGINEERING
C3
E3
HANGAR
THE ONLY WAY I CAN SEE, SIR IS TO GO THROUGH ENGINEERING, ON TO THE ARMORY AND DOWN PAST THE HAB BLOCK...
FORGET IT! THE ADJOINING CORRIDORS HAVE BEEN OVERRUN!
WHAT'S THAT BROKEN LINE INDICATE? AN ACCESS TUNNEL?
C3
E3
HANGAR
ENGINEERING
ARM
LIBRARY
GREEN HOUSE
INF
E4
LABORATORY
H
SIMILAR LIEUTENANT, IT'S THE MAINTENANCE TUNNEL THE FORKLIFTS USE TO SERVICE THE SILO. IT RUNS UNDER THE GREENHOUSE
BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO IT OTHER THAN THROUGH THE HANGAR.
KAFOOM
WELL WE'D BETTER MAKE A WAY--IT'S OUR ONLY HOPE!
MOVE IT OUT--HEAD FOR THE HANGAR BAY!

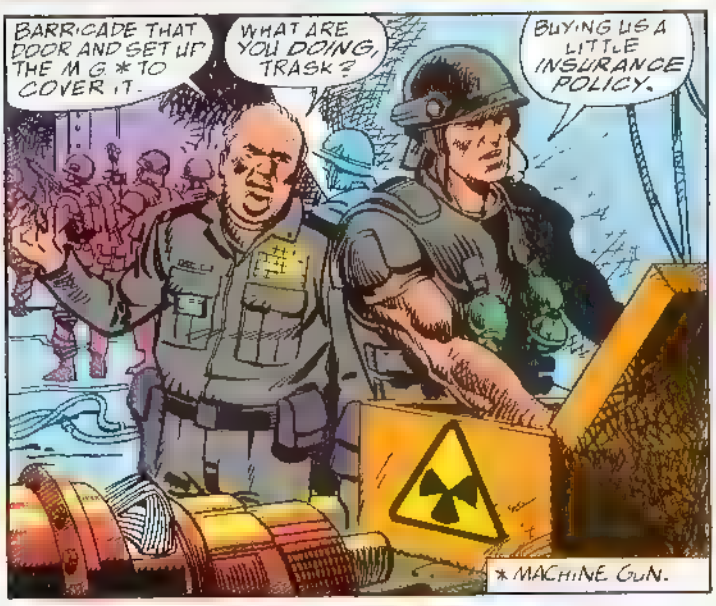
LIEUTENANT, THIS IS CONROY, THE EXHAUST VENTS LOOK ALL CLEAR SO FAR, YOU CAN START BRINGING THEM DOWN NOW.
OKAY PEOPLE, SADDLE UP THE BUGGIES!
ER, WAIT A SECOND... WE GOT MOVEMENT -- GRENA-- FZZZZZZTTT!!
EVERYBODY GET OUT! REVERSE UP!
SHUT THE DOOR! THERE'S HUNDREDS OF THEM DOWN THERE!
SORRY, LIEUTENANT THEY WERE WAITING FOR US WE DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE.
YOU DID OKAY, SOLDIER
WELL, THERE GOES OUR LAST WAY OUT.
I THINK THIS PLACE HAS JUST BECOME OUR TOMB.
NEVER SAY DIE, PROFESSOR-- I THINK I GOT A PLAN.

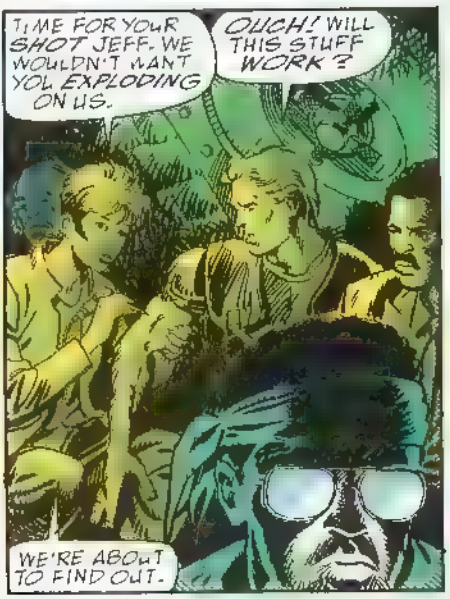
WE'LL NEVER GET THROUGH THERE, SIR-- IT'S LIKE A BLAST FURNACE!
THEY'RE COMING THROUGH BEHIND US, S.R! THEY'VE BLOWN THE DOOR TO THE ACCESSWAY!
COUPLE OF BUGGIES OVER THERE LOOK NTACT-- F WE CAN JUST--
SADLER! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
GET THE MEN ABOARD LIEUTENANT!
YOU HEARD THE COLONEL-- MOVE IT!
McDONALD, SHIFT YOUR SORRY ASS!
WE'VE LOST HENDERSON CLANCY JAMES.
FORGET THEM --WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF!
GET ON THE HEAD SET TO McCLURE, TELL THEM TO BE READY WITH THE DOOR!
YES, SIR!

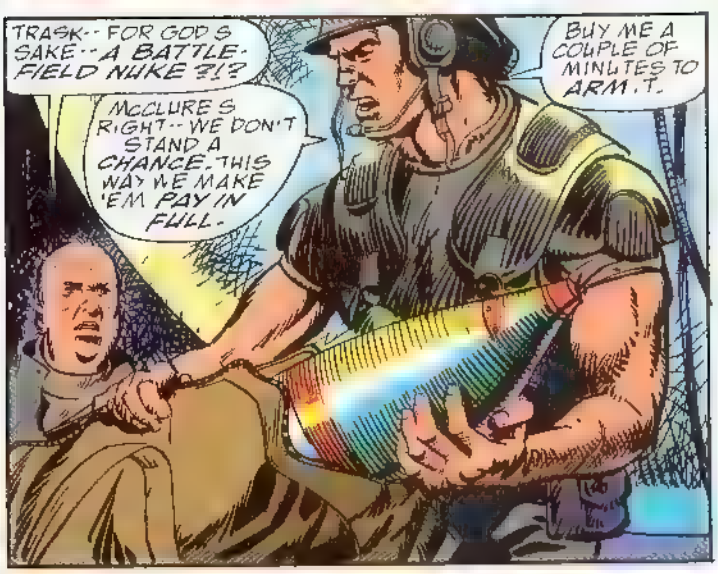
EVERYBODY OUT.
I'M SURE THE DOORWAY THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND
I...
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?
THE MOTHERS TEASER THE EXHAUST VENTS PLUGGED AND TOO THICK OR NOTHING.
YOU'VE SEEN ODIN WORK WE'VE BEEN GONE FOR SIX MONTHS IN THE FUTURE.
THIS IS INSANE!
LOOK-- WE KNOW HOW THE ALIENS OPERATE. IN SIX MONTHS THEY'LL BE GONE AND ODIN AND ONLY MORE TIME TRAVEL FORWARD IN TIME AND WE'RE SAFE.
EITHER THAT OR GET OVER-RUN-- AND THEY DON'T TAKE PRISONERS UNLESS IT'S FOR ENTERTAINMENT!
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL GET IN THAT COFFIN.
GOOD. YOU CAN STAY WITH ME AND THE OTHERS WHO DON'T WANT TO GO. WE'LL COVER THE JUMP.
IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU I'LL TAKE THE RISK


EVERYBODY'S READY, JEFF. C'MON. WE'LL POWER UP THE GENERATORS BY REMOTE.
COLONEL, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS? YOU'D STAND A CHANCE IN HERE WITH US!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME -- I ALWAYS DID GET TRAVEL SICK.

HATCH SEALED, WOODWARD. WHAT'S NEXT?


BARRICADE THAT DOOR AND SET UP THE M G * TO COVER IT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, TRASK?
BUYING US A LITTLE INSURANCE POLICY.
* MACHINE GUN.


TIME FOR YOUR SHOT JEFF. WE WOULDN'T WANT YOU EXPLODING ON US.
OUCH! WILL THIS STUFF WORK?
WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.


TRASK -- FOR GOD'S SAKE -- A BATTLE-FIELD NUKE?!?
MCCLURE'S RIGHT -- WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE. THIS WAY WE MAKE 'EM PAY IN FULL.
BUY ME A COUPLE OF MINUTES TO ARM IT.

OKAY, AUXILIARY POWER UNITS TO STANDBY. CONTINUITY CIRCUITS CLOSED. STASIS FIELD UP. ON MY MARK... COUNT. THREE.

STOP, TRASK! IF WOODWARD'S MACHINE WORKS, THEY'LL HAVE ESCAPED THE SCAVENGERS ONLY TO RETURN TO A RADIO-ACTIVE DESERT!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU CARE? WE'RE GONNA BE DEAD IN A MINUTE ANYWAY!
HUUUUUM-
...TWO...
MM
HHUUAMEE
...ONE!
EE
EEE
DAMN. DAMN NOTHING'S HAPPENING!
PHUT

BRUUMM
GET TO COVER!

SO MUCH FOR BUYING A FEW MINUTES -
FALL BACK TO THE SPHERE
HOW DOES THIS THING OPEN?
WE'VE GOT NO POWER INPUT - THE GENERATORS MUST BE DOWN
I'LL JUMP OUTSIDE AND CHECK
WHAT THE -?!
OUT OF THE WAY - THEY'RE COMING THROUGH THE ROOF!
QUICK! SHUT THE HATCH!
WHY THE CHANGE OF HEART?
JUST DECIDED THAT DEATH WASN'T PREFERABLE TO GLORY
NOW FREE UP AND GET US THE HELL OUTTA HERE
WE ARE SOON NOWHERE! NO JUICE - NO JUMP!
LOOKS LIKE YOU JUMPED OUT OF THE FRYING PAN INTO THE MICROWAVE!

BRR UUMM
DIAGNOSTICS SHOW THE FAULT IS IN THE CONTROL ROOM.
SOMEONE'S GONNA HAVE TO GO OUT THERE--
FORGET IT! THEY'RE CRAWLIN' ALL OVER THE PLACE
SOMETHING BEFORE SOMEONE OUT THERE GETS THEMSELVES A CAN OPENER!

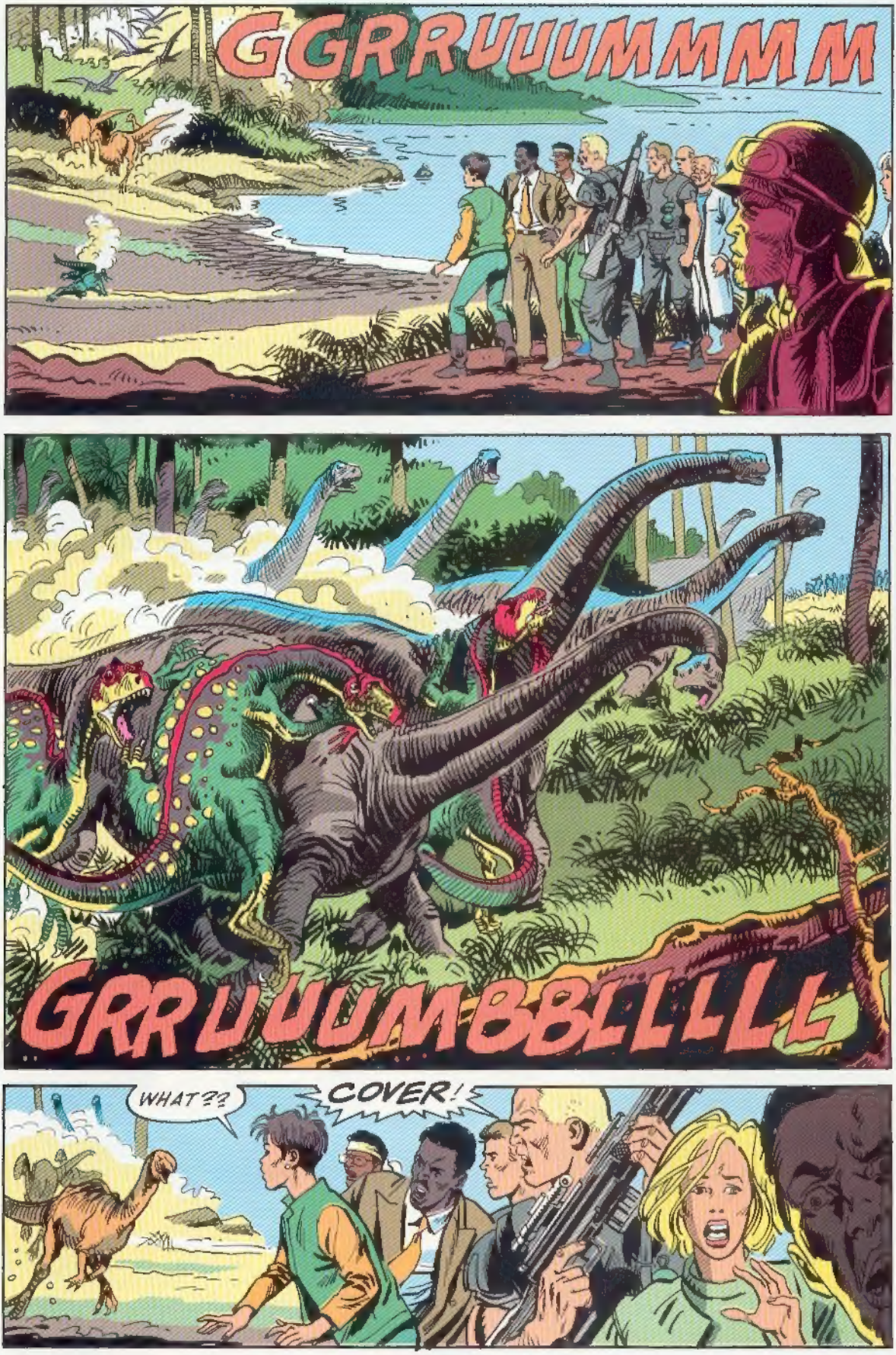
SSKKRRAAKKTTT
POWER SURGE--! BRACE YOURSELVES! OH, SHEEEE--
EEE PHUT

NOOO.
OMIGOD OMIGOD OMIGOD
WAAHH!
WOOAAHH!
OURFATHER WHOARTIN HEAVEN--
SHEEE--
...
!!!!
AAKKK!
THRUMPP
OH! MY HEAD!
UGH! WHASSS-APPENED ??
AWWW JEEZ-- I'M SOAKED!
WAIT UP.. SMELLS LIKE--
UURRGHH! BLOOD! I'M COVERED IN BLOOD!
GET US OUT OF HERE!
I'M GONNA THROW..
ACK! BLAUGH!
NO! I DIDN'T INJECT THAT SOLDIER!
GOD!
YOU MEAN? DAMN!
SOMEONE GET ME OUT OF HERE!!
SHUT UP! WOODWARD-- GET THE HATCH OPEN! FIND OUT WHERE WE ARE!
OKAY
KLIK
FWOOSH
WATCH YOUR EYES!
CAN YOU SMELL THAT?
SMELLS LIKE GAS.
IT AIN'T ME.
WHERE THE HELL ARE WE WOODWARD?!
WELL, THAT'S THE REAL TRICK.

WHAT THE-- HOW??
WHERE ARE WE?
UM. I DON'T THINK IT'S A CASE OF WHERE, BUT WHEN!
WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE, LIEUTENANT?
THERE'S A DEAD MAN IN HERE!
Ahhh!
FLUHRPP
WE'RE SINKING!
SINKING? OH MY--
HANG ON! I GOT YA!
TRASK! GET EVERYONE OUT AND TO THE SHORE.
WOODWARD, I'M GOING TO LOWER YOU DOWN.
GREAT! THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, THERE'LL BE SHARKS!
CAN YOU TOUCH BOTTOM?
YES--AND I THINK IT WILL HOLD MY WEIGHT.
OKAY. WE'LL FORM A CHAIN TO THE SHORE AND START UNLOADING WHAT WE CAN--
GLG
BLURP

MOVE IT PEOPLE!
SHOULDN'T WE BE TRYING TO KEEP IT AFLOAT!?
NO WAY, MAN! WE'RE NEARLY KNEE DEEP--AND THAT THING WE GHS TWENTY FIVE TONS!
BUT HOW WILL WE GET BACK?
LOOK AT THAT!
D'YOU BRING YOUR ELEPHANT GUN?
PHURT
SPLURG
TRASK - GET OUT! SHE'S GOING UNDER!
JUST A FEW MORE THINGS--!
SPOOORG
JUMP FOR IT!
PLIP PLIG BLUP

YOU SCREWED THIS ONE UP "WONDER BOY"!
DON'T BLAME WOODWARD TRASK.
I'D THINK YOU'D FEEL AT HOME, CAPTAIN NEANDER-THAL.
THUNK
TRASK! COOL IT-- LET'S JUST FIGURE A WAY OUT OF HERE!
YOU CAN HIT ME. BUT IT WON'T HELP. WE ARE REALLY SCREWED.
WHATEVER ZAPPED US BACK IN THE HANGAR BLEW THE CONTINUUM TO SMITHEREENS.
IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT THAT WE'VE GONE BACK IN TIME, NOT FOWARD!
AND NOT JUST SIX MONTHS!
YOU'RE THE MILITARY HERE. DO SOMETHING!
LIKE WHAT? OUR TIME MACHINE JUST SUNK!
THIS IS REMARKABLE. WHAT A SCIENTIFIC OPPORTUNITY.
YEAH PROF, BUT WHERE YOU GONNA TELL?
WILL YOU BOY SCOUTS SHUT UP AND LISTEN!


GGRRUUUMMMM
GRRUUUMBBLLLLL
WHAT??
COVER!

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH IN...
DREADLANDS!

ANDY LANNING
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RICHARD ASHFORD
Assistant Editor

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CARL POTTS
Executive Editor
Epic Comics

A hatchling Allosaur, still covered in down, toys with a turtle shell.
Upper Jurassic, 150 million years ago, N. America.